2015 NDSBA Convention Will Motivate and Inform

NDSBA’s Annual Convention will be held October 29-30 at the Ramkota Hotel in Bismarck. The New Member Seminar and School Law Seminar begin at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, October 29, and run until 2:45 p.m.

The convention will open with a keynote speaker on Thursday afternoon at 3:00. Friday begins with a general session speaker and continues with a full day of educational sessions including an afternoon general session speaker.

Since individual board members will not be able to attend all sessions, it is a good idea for boards to review clinic sessions in advance, attend as many different sessions as possible, and later share what was learned.

Issues presented during general sessions and clinic sessions will be important to board members, business managers, and superintendents.

Keynote Speakers

Thursday, 3:00 p.m.
*Making Comic Sense*

Jimmy Tingle

Friday, 8:00 a.m.
*Welcome to the Great Conversation: Building Public Support for Public Schools—One Community at a Time*

Jamie Vollmer

Friday, 1:15 p.m.
*Generation Me*

Dr. Jean Twenge

As a featured clinic session speaker, Past President of the National School Boards Association C. Ed Massey, from Kentucky, will share information on the idea of students serving on local school boards at 9:30 a.m. on Friday.

At 2:30 on Friday, State Superintendent Baesler and her Student Cabinet will present information on how and why the student cabinet was created. The session will focus on getting student opinions about policies, as well as learning about what issues students think are important for their schools and their academic future.

Friday Clinic Sessions include the following topics:

- Building Your Social Media Strategy
- Open Record and Meeting Laws
- Students Serving on School Boards
- School Finance 101
- Leveraging the Senior Year
- Impact of CTE on Native American Students
- Student Data Privacy
- How REAs Support Your School
- Communicating with and Leveraging the Media
- Education/Business Partnerships
- School Boards Professional Development Training
- School Resource Officer Program
- Conversation with State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler
- ND High School Activities Association Update
- Teachers’ Fund for Retirement 2015 Update
- Challenges and Solutions in Financing School Construction Projects
- Home Schooling—The FACTS
- State Superintendent Student Cabinet
- Small Organized Schools: Learning Labs
- Small Organized Schools Board Meeting and Creative Learning Systems

Consult http://www.ndsba.org/Events/Convention.asp to view all clinic session times.

Superintendent Evaluations

North Dakota law requires that school boards complete a formative evaluation of superintendents *on or before November 15* [NDCC 15.1-14-03]. This evaluation must take place at an open public meeting. One purpose of the November evaluation is to highlight areas of performance in need of improvement and provide an improvement plan and timeline for expected enhanced performance. The law regarding superintendent evaluations states that if the superintendent is found to be unsatisfactory in any area, the board shall detail its findings in the report and make recommendations. This process allows opportunity for professional growth before the superintendent’s formal evaluation which must be completed *on or before March 15*. A sample evaluation form is available on NDSBA’s website at www.ndsba.org under Resources. The form is currently being revised and a new form will be available in November.
Meet the 2015 NDSBA Candidates

**CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT**

Jim Rostad, Minot

As a resident of rural Minot, Jim brings a unique blend of experiences to the NDSBA. Rostad graduated from Carpio High School and attended Minot State University. Jim is retired from a 40-year career in the auto collision repair industry. Founder of Minot’s Finest Collision Center, Jim was active in state and national auto body industry organizations and was a columnist for “Body Shop Business,” the most highly recognized industry journal in the nation. Jim served as a board member and president of the North Dakota Auto Body Association and as chairman of the state convention. His contributions to the auto body industry in the state were recognized when he was inducted into the ND Auto Body Association’s Hall of Fame in 2012. His 40 years of management experience helped him develop valuable decision-making skills.

Jim’s school board experience includes serving as a member of the Minot Public School Board from 1988-1992, and from 2004 to present. Jim was president from 1990-1992 and again from 2012 to the present. Rostad has attended several NSBA conferences, and as the board’s liaison to the Minot Air Force Base School Board, he has attended several National Association of Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS) conferences in Washington, D.C., where he has also met with our congressional delegation. Jim has served on NDSBA’s Governmental Affairs Committee for the last nine years. He was elected to the NDSBA Board of Directors as the representative from the Northwest Region in 2010, served as vice president for two years, and as president for the last year.

Jim is a past board member and chairman of the Minot Housing Authority and a member of the Minot Area Development Corporation, where he currently serves on the Executive Committee as treasurer. He is a former member and chairman of the Board of Trustees of his church, where he and his wife Verla are active members. Jim and Verla have two grown children and three grandchildren.

**CANDIDATE FOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Ben Auch – Mott/Regent

Ben graduated from Mott High School in 1993, attended NDSCS, and graduated in 1996 with an Associate’s Degree in Diesel Technology. Ben was elected to the Mott/Regent School Board in 2004. Ben has served on several board committees, including eight years on negotiations—twice as chief negotiator.

He recently finished four years on the NDHSAA board of directors. Ben has served the past year as NDSBA Vice President. He is a former Barb Norby Scholarship recipient, has attended NSBA’s National Advocacy Institute, and lobbied the ND legislature several times.

Ben is a salesman for Dakota Farm Equipment. He is very active in his community working with the county fair board and 4-H and is a former EMT and volunteer fireman. He is active in his local church, serving on many committees, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He has been married to Nadra for 18 years and has two children Kaden (12) and Kendra (9).

**CANDIDATE FOR SOUTHWEST DIRECTOR**

Lawrence King, Bismarck

Lawrence King is the proud father of three. Samantha (Century High School 2009), Erik (Century High School 2011), and Isaac (8th grader). Lawrence graduated with a political science degree with a minor in criminal justice in 1989 from UND. He then attended UND Law School and graduated in 1992. He has been a partner with Zuger Kirms & Smith for over 23 years.

Lawrence was elected to the Bismarck School Board in 2008. He served as vice president one year, president of the board for two years, and was recently re-elected president. Lawrence has attended every North Dakota School Boards Association meeting since he was elected to the board and almost every National School Boards Association meeting as well. He serves on the Governmental Affairs Committee of NDSBA; he served one year on the Nominating Committee of NDSBA; and has served one year on the NDSBA Credentials Committee. Lawrence also served four years on the Missouri River Education Cooperative and two years on the Bismarck Public School Foundation.
CANDIDATES

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Lawrence is active in his community including past chairman of the finance committee at his Methodist Church; past president of Bridging the Dental Gap, a local nonprofit entity; past president of the Big Muddy Bar Association; past president of the Young Lawyers Section; and past president of the State Bar Association of North Dakota. Lawrence also serves as president of the North Dakota Board of Law Examiners.

CANDIDATES FOR NORTHEAST DIRECTOR

Holly Stromsodt, Finley-Sharon

Holly is a mother of three: Max (15), Allison (10), and Rachel (6). She has been married to her husband Mike for 19 years. Holly graduated from Griggs County Central High School and received her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Valley City State University. She is a 1999 graduate of the Dakota School of Banking and a 2003 graduate of the Graduate School of Banking at Colorado. Holly has been with the Citizens State Bank of Finley for 18 years. She is the EVP/CFO and was appointed to the Board of Directors in 2015. She also serves on the North Dakota Bankers Association Board of Directors and Legislative Committee.

Holly was elected to the Finley-Sharon School Board in 2012. She has served as vice president for two years. Holly has attended the NDSBA Annual Convention and Negotiations Seminar every year since serving on the school board. She also served one year on the NDSBA Nominating Committee.

Holly is active in her community serving as treasurer for the Finley-Sharon Dollars for Scholars, treasurer for the Griggs-Steele Empowerment Zone, and treasurer for the Steele County Job Development Authority. She is active in her local church helping with Family Faith Formation and assisting with the local high school Christian youth group.

Steve Halldorson, Devils Lake

Steve graduated in 1978 from Devils Lake High School. He has served on numerous organizations including Devils Lake Recreation Committee, Lake Region Skating Club, Blue Line Club, Middle School Exploratory Committee and his children’s elementary PTO. Steve is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Steve was elected to the Devils Lake School Board in 2005. He served as vice president for one year and president for three years. He is president of the Northeast Educational Services Cooperative’s executive committee.

Steve has attended many NDSBA conventions and served four years on the Ballot Counting Committee.

Steve is a facilities technician for Altru Health System. He has been married to his wife Donna for 27 years. They have three adult children: Nicholas, Alex, and Shana. They also have one grandson Aidan.

State Law Requires New Members to Attend Seminar

North Dakota Century Code section 15.1-09-32 requires new school board members to attend an inservice training workshop hosted by the North Dakota School Boards Association or its designee within one year of assuming office. NDSBA hosts a seminar for new board members the day before convention. Topics will include the role of a school board member, the duties of a school board, and school finance. A panel of experienced school board members will also present their experiences.

Registration for the New Member Seminar is available at www.ndsba.org/Events/2014Convention/registration.pdf

2015 Convention Committees

Nominating Committee
Joyce Braunagel, Valley City, Chair
Tracey Day, Surrey
Lisa Amundson, Richland

Credentials Committee
Roger Johnson, Kenmare, Chair
Lori Carlson, Barnes County North
Roger Haut, Jamestown
Carl Young, Garrison

Ballot Counting Committee
Angie Michaelsohn, Mapleton, Chair
Scott Larson, Sawyer
Darrel Schulte, Hebron

Governmental Affairs Committee
Greg Allen, Jamestown, Chair
Kris Fehr, Dickinson
Dianne Hensen, Glenburn
Jim Johnson, Fargo
Lawrence King, Bismarck
Mike Lautenschlager, Berthold
Don Nygaard, Finley-Sharon
David Richter, Williston
Jim Rostad, Minot

Thank you to each of these members for your willingness to serve the association!

mark your calendar

2016 NDSBA Negotiations Seminar
February 11-12, 2016
Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck

2016 NSBA Annual Conference
April 9-11, 2016
Boston, MA

2016 NDSBA Annual Convention
October 27-28, 2016
Ramkota Hotel, Bismarck

Happy Halloween

from Alyssa, Anita, Julie, Jon, Linnae and Patty
Governor Jack Dalrymple and State Superintendent Kirsten Baesler presented Amy Neal, a kindergarten teacher at Lewis and Clark Elementary School in Minot, with the 2016 North Dakota Teacher of the Year award. The announcement was made during a ceremony at the school that was attended by students, administrators, teachers, and representatives from the state's education associations.

Neal was selected from a pool of four finalists that included Matthew Myrold, a special education instructor with Carl Ben Eielson Middle School in Fargo; Heath Rydell, a physical education and health teacher from South Elementary School in West Fargo; and Heather Tomlin-Rohr, a kindergarten teacher at Louis L'Amour Elementary School in Jamestown.

Neal has been a teacher with Minot Public Schools since 2000. Prior to that, she taught kindergarten in West Fargo and Bloomer, Wisconsin. She has been active with the North Dakota Kindergarten Association and the North Dakota Reading Association. Neal received her Master’s of Education degree from Minot State University and her Bachelor of Science in Education from Valley City State University.

“"It is such an honor to be named North Dakota’s representative as Teacher of the Year,” Neal said. “This award recognizes my professional career and passion for early childhood development that have merged to make me the teacher I am today. My goal as a teacher is for my students to find success.”

The Teacher of the Year program is sponsored by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction in conjunction with the Council of Chief State School Officers. Nominations for Teacher of the Year come from a teacher, school administrator, local education association, student, or parent and are reviewed by a seven-member selection panel. Neal will advance to the national Teacher of the Year program.